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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q66100

Kazuo KURODA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/944,179

Group Art Unit: 2131

Confirmation No.: 9852

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 4, 2001

For: INFORMATION SENDING METHOD AND INFORMATION SENDING
APPARATUS, INFORMATION RECEIVING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION..

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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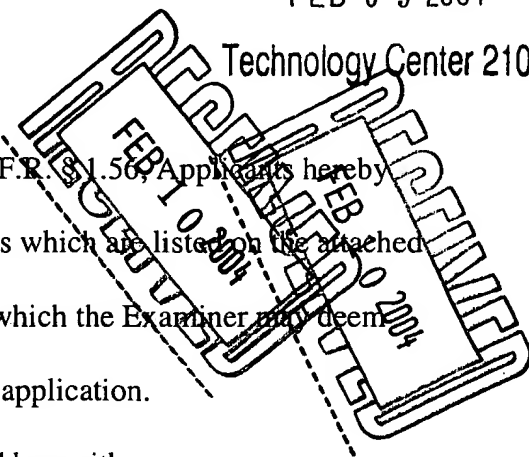
Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made a Statement is submitted herewith.



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/944,179

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q66100

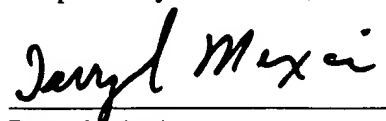
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of an Office Action from a foreign Patent Office in connection with a foreign Patent Application that corresponds to the subject US Application, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the attached English abstract from EP 0978965, which corresponds to Chinese Publication No. 1252912 and English abstract from U.S. Patent No. 5,920,627, which corresponds to Chinese Publication No. 11-59108 also constitutes concise statements of relevance of the respective references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 6, 2004



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed
concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a
counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information
Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl Mexic
Registration No. 23,063

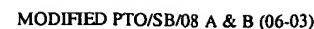
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Complete if Known

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Filing Date	September 4, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazuo KURODA
Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q66100

Sheet	1	of	1
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		English Abstract of WO 98/48543, abstracting CN 12-52912 published October 15, 2000	
		English Abstract of CN 11-59108 published September 10, 1997	

Date Considered

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial